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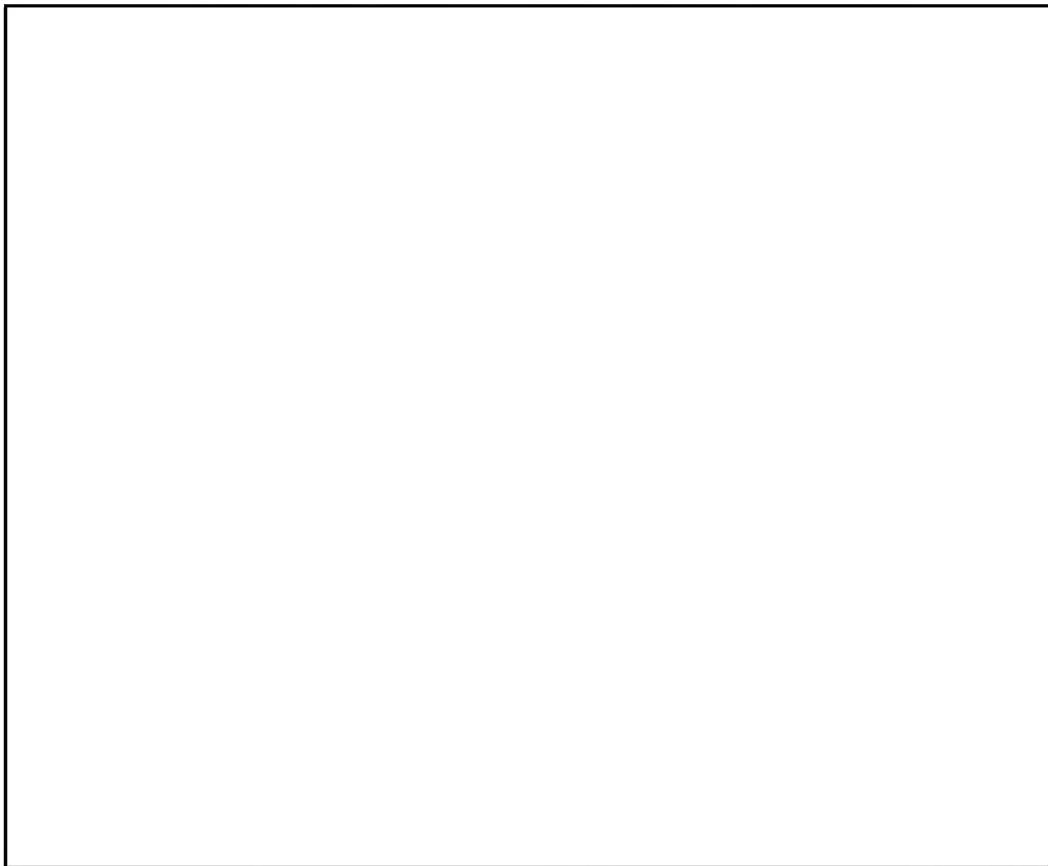
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4. ZHUKOV TO VISIT YUGOSLAVIA

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Soviet Defense Minister Zhukov's scheduled visit to Yugoslavia on 8 October probably is another Soviet effort to achieve a greater understanding between Yugoslavia and the Soviet bloc rather than an indication of the conclusion of a military assistance agreement between Belgrade and Moscow. Zhukov is the logical exponent of the Soviet position that steps toward further liberalization in the satellites must proceed with caution for security reasons. While Belgrade understands Moscow's desire to move slowly in this area in view of the lessons learned in Hungary, the sooner some satellite regimes are able to manifest a further degree of independence the more secure Tito will feel in his rapprochement with the USSR.

The Yugoslav press describes the visit of Zhukov and several accompanying generals and admirals as returning the one made last June to the USSR by Yugoslav Defense Secretary Gosnjak. There was no indication at that time that the supplying of military materiel was seriously discussed, although the USSR has periodically indicated a desire to supply the Yugoslavs with MIG's.

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